

Gods Daily 478

Chapter 478: A Pride Trampled at Will

For one thing, Aetherian Sanctuary itself was the strongest fortress of all. With Aurek personally presiding over it, even the arrival of a Sage Master would make it nearly impossible to shake the Empire's foundations.

For another, resources were now abundant. Combined with the vast influx of Emperor Points brought by the war in the Celestial Light God Realm, it was more than enough to support Aurek's push toward the Sage Lord rank.

With the Thousand Sword Judgement Domain, Soul Law, spatial laws, and many other methods at his command, he had more than enough means to stabilize the overall situation.

As for the Celestial Light God Realm, with Josephine and the other empresses stationed there, his will was already well represented.

Since they bore the titles of Empress and Imperial Consorts, they naturally had to possess the ability to deter all directions and stand on their own.

Josephine carried within her the tenacious bloodline of the Empire's first-generation ancestors—she had never lacked courage or resolve.

"Peaceful days are always so short-lived... they really do make one nostalgic."

Kaos sighed theatrically, putting on an air of helplessness.

He had already been thoroughly worn out by Beyoncé before, and now Aurek was squeezing him again. An idea flashed through his mind, and he replied smoothly,

"If something truly major happens up there, I'll naturally step in."

"As for Beyoncé, she's grown up now. It's time to let her go out and make her own way."

After all, she's following your Empress and Imperial Consorts—I'm very much at ease!

Kaos grinned broadly.

Within the Divine Sanctuary, Aurek's eyes narrowed slightly. He felt a bit helpless in the face of Kaos's shameless behavior.

Still, since Kaos had promised to keep an eye on the god realm and act when necessary, Aurek had nothing further to say.

Aurek's true body continued to study supreme divine arts such as the Imperial Source Codex and the Cosmic Spirit Scroll, while simultaneously preparing to break through to the Sage Lord realm.

Only by stepping into the Sage Lord realm could one truly command rules and order.

Only then could he completely control Aetherian Sanctuary and that Gold Giant Gate, fully drawing this supreme holy land over from the far side of the Starry Chaos.

At the same time, he could also attempt to probe the enormous secret hidden in the deepest reaches of the Divine Sanctuary!

...

Celestial Light God Realm, Royal Court.

"Impossible—!!!"

"You must be joking! This is absolutely impossible!"

"The Automaton Legion is invincible! My elder brother is among them—he has always been the pride of our family..."

"I won't allow you to defile it! Were you bribed? Are you lying?!"

Inside a luxurious tavern.

Several figures were violently thrown out the door. Immediately after, a deranged young man rushed out, his expression ferocious and twisted.

The people who had been thrown out looked at him with a mix of fear and anger.

"The Automaton Legion really has been annihilated!"

"Even General Cedric died in battle!"

One of them shouted angrily, "Do you think we wanted to accept this?!"

"What? The Automaton Legion was wiped out completely?"

"Absolutely true! I heard they didn't even get a chance to fight—destroyed in an instant!"

"The Crossbridge Empire has an army of a hundred million God King–rank soldiers, with terrifying methods! They can attack the soul and manipulate spatial laws! The Sacred Guard Legion, the Celestial Mountain Legion... not a single one escaped!"

"Hahahaha... is this some kind of hellish joke?!"

"Five hundred thousand soldiers of the Automaton Legion—every single one with Sage King—rank combat power, capable of fighting ten thousand, even a hundred thousand enemies alone!"

"And they had Sage King—level puppet constructs supporting them, with top-tier equipment among top-tier! How could they possibly lose?!"

"You're a spy sent by the Crossbridge Empire, aren't you?! Deliberately insulting the Automaton Legion—beat this trash to death!"

The Royal Court completely erupted.

In just a few short days, news of the disastrous defeat in Unar Province spread back like a plague.

The details of the Automaton Legion's total annihilation pierced the hearts of every God Mountain citizen, driving countless people into disbelief and madness.

This was no different from taking the pride in their hearts and grinding it underfoot like garbage.

No one could accept such a reality.

What's more... the enemy hadn't even given the Automaton Legion a chance to display the slightest shred of divine might before slaughtering them to the last in the blink of an eye.

The invincible army in their eyes was, in the eyes of the Crossbridge Empire, no different from ants!

And yet clearly, in their own eyes, the Crossbridge Empire was supposed to be trash—ignorant ants from the lower realms!

They themselves were the exalted people of God Mountain, one of the rulers of the Celestial Light God Realm!

Now, to be pressed into the dirt and ground down by people from the lower realms—they simply couldn't accept it.

Not at all!

"Anyone who spreads rumors again, I'll kill him!"

Another young man fell into madness, roaring at the crowd.

"Sigh... another one's gone mad."

Watching this scene, some city folk sighed bitterly.

Not long ago, everyone had been mocking the Crossbridge Empire's provocation as suicidal, firmly believing that the Automaton Legion would grind that empire into dust.

They had watched the legion march out, waiting only for its glorious return.

The higher the mountain of hope built, the darker the abyss of disappointment when it collapsed.

They could understand that feeling.

"The Crossbridge Empire... just what kind of existence is it?"

"Our arrogance blinded us—we underestimated it before."

"I heard even three Divine Oracle lords fell there... sigh!"

This hastily launched and brutally concluded war smashed the confidence and pride of the Olympian God Mountain citizens to pieces.

For countless years, everyone had regarded themselves as godly people, looking down on the lower realms from the depths of their bones—that was the innate sense of superiority belonging to the people of God Mountain.

Now, that sense of superiority had been crushed to powder!

This was a heavy blow to the collective will of all God Mountain citizens!

Not only the Royal Court—many great provinces under Olympian God Mountain's rule were equally shaken.

The impact continued to spread, even beginning to extend beyond the borders of God Mountain's territory!

...

Thousandblade Spire.

Vane listened to the detailed battle report brought back by his subordinates, falling into long silence and shock, unable to recover for quite some time.

When the Automaton Legion had set out, he had even chatted and laughed with the dragon-blooded powerhouse Herbert, joking that using this trump card against a lower realm was overkill.

Now, the result of the legion's expedition truly had shaken the world—but in the most humiliating way possible, with total annihilation.

"This time... we really got our eyes pecked by an eagle."

Vane muttered to himself.

"Tower Master, the foundations of the Crossbridge Empire absolutely cannot be underestimated. A quasi-sage lord personally entered the battlefield wielding a Proto-World Relic, and the overall combat power of their legions almost crossed an entire major rank."

"I saw it with my own eyes—even Sacred Radiance-rank experts couldn't escape disaster before them. This can no longer be called an ordinary army."

The reporter spoke with lingering fear.

Hearing this, Vane also felt the gravity of the situation.

Olympian God Mountain possessed quite a few God King-rank legions as well.

But an army of a hundred million that could instantly annihilate five hundred thousand fully equipped Automaton Legion soldiers, complete with divine puppet constructs...

That could not possibly be explained by sheer numerical advantage alone.

Attacking the soul. Manipulating space...

These were among the strongest and hardest-to-master laws between heaven and earth.

"It seems we've been comfortable in God Mountain for far too long. We've grown numb and lost our sense of crisis!"

Vane said gravely. "Immediately mobilize all resources and conduct a full investigation into every piece of information on the Crossbridge Empire!"

As he spoke, his gaze turned toward the summit of God Mountain.

That was where the heaviest blow had landed!

...

Sanctified Heart Garden.

Saintess Vivien stood dazed for a long while.

Originally, she had only been interested in the combat power of the Automaton Legion.

Now, however, she felt an unprecedented curiosity toward the legions of the Crossbridge Empire.

A war that had seemed a sure victory, intended to glorify the Automaton Legion, had instead produced such a world-shaking reversal—completely beyond everyone's expectations.

"Are you certain... that it was truly an army of one hundred million God King—rank soldiers that accomplished this?"